

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045654
ORIGIN IO-13

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 25, 1977,
FROM ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR IO, DONALD R.
TOUSSAINT, TO THE HONORABLE DANTE B. FASCELL, CHAIRMAN,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES:

2. "DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN:

I AM WRITING TO MEET THE NEED YOU POINTED TO--IN THE
FEBRUARY 17 HEARINGS CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF FUNDS FOR
UNESCO--FOR A BETTER PICTURE OF FUTURE STEPS THE USG PLANS
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PAGE 02 STATE 045654

TO COUNTER THOSE TRENDS IN UNESCO WHICH REMAIN OBJECT-
IONABLE TO US.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK UPON IMPORTANT UNESCO ISSUES AS
TARGETS FOR OUR MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY--AND ARE
DETERMINED TO PURSUE VIGOROUSLY SEVERAL DIFFERENT BUT
RELATED COURSES:

STRENGTHEN U. S. REPRESENTATION: WE RECOGNIZE THE NECESSITY OF THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE U. S. REPRESENTATION TO UNESCO--AT THE PERMANENT MISSION, THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, AT GENERAL CONFERENCES AND OTHER MEETINGS DEALING WITH IMPORTANT ITEMS SUCH AS THE MASS MEDIA--AND WILL TAKE STEPS TO THAT END;

FAIR SHARE OF AMERICANS IN SECRETARIAT: WE WILL IMPRESS UPON ALL CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE UNESCO SECRETARIAT, THE GREAT IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO HAVING QUALIFIED AMERICANS OCCUPY THEIR FAIR SHARE OF HIGH-LEVEL POSITIONS IN THE SECRETARIAT;

BALANCE IN UNESCO EXPERT BODIES: WE WILL STRESS TO ALL CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE UNESCO SECRETARIAT, THAT EXPERT BODIES CREATED TO DRAW UP PLANS OR DRAFT DECLARATIONS FOR IMPORTANT FIELDS OF UNESCO ACTIVITIES--MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND RACE, FOR EXAMPLE--MUST BE BALANCED AND, SPECIFICALLY, MUST INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS DEVOTED TO PRINCIPLES, VALUES AND PROCEDURES FUNDAMENTAL TO WESTERN AND AMERICAN SOCIETY;

PROMOTION OF FURTHER DEPOLITICIZATION: WE WILL PROMOTE FURTHER DEPOLITICIZATION OF UNESCO MEETINGS--THAT IS, THE AVOIDANCE OF UNNECESSARY POLITICAL CONFRONTATIONS, THE EXCLUSION OF MATTERS EXTRANEOUS TO UNESCO'S CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND OF ACTIONS WHICH ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL OR INHERENTLY ARBITRARY.
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PAGE 03 STATE 045654

AN END TO INTERFERENCE WITH NGO'S: WE WILL OPPOSE ALL EFFORTS IN UNESCO TO INTERFERE WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ORGANIZATION.

CLEANING SLATE OF ARBITRARY ACTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL: WE WILL FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR EFFORTS TO IMPRESS UPON OTHER MEMBERS AND THE SECRETARIAT THE NEED TO WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN OF THE ARBITRARY AND UNJUST ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST ISRAEL AT THE 1974 GENERAL CONFERENCE AND RECONFIRMED AT THE 1976 CONFERENCE.

THE SUCCESSES WE ACHIEVE IN MEETING THESE OBJECTIVES WILL OBVIOUSLY DEPEND UPON THE CALIBER AND PERSISTENCE OF OUR OWN EFFORTS AND THE RECEPTIVITY TOWARD OUR EFFORTS AMONG OTHER MEMBERS OF UNESCO AND THE LEADERS OF THE UNESCO SECRETARIAT; THAT FACTOR IN TURN WILL DEPEND TO AN IMPORTANT EXTENT UPON THE OUTCOME OF THE

FUNDING ISSUE NOW BEFORE THE CONGRESS.

THERE ARE MANY UNCERTAINTIES WHICH MAKE IMPOSSIBLE PREDICTIONS OR GUARANTEED RESULTS--UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS IN MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES, ABOUT FUTURE PROGRESS TOWARD A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT AND, THUS, ABOUT THE MOODS OF THE MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES INVOLVED; PERHAPS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT OUR SUCCESS IN PURSUING POLICIES ON AFRICAN AND NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES WHICH WILL ENSURE CONTINUATION OF THE THIRD WORLD UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT WE RECEIVED AT THE NAIROBI CONFERENCE. THERE IS ALSO THE PRACTICAL RESTRAINT OF NOT WANTING TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PLANS TO THOSE MEMBERS OF UNESCO THAT DO NOT SHARE OUR OBJECTIVES. WITHIN THESE LIMITS, HOWEVER, WE WILL WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU AND OTHERS ON THE COMMITTEE THE OBJECTIVES AND PLANS WE HAVE FOR THE FUTURE. SINCERELY."

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PAGE 04 STATE 045654

3. THIS LETTER WILL BE INCORPORATED IN THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S REPORT, AND UNTIL THIS REPORT IS PUBLISHED, THE TEXT OF THE LETTER IS TO BE CONSIDERED THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S CONFIDENTIAL PROPERTY AND NOT PUBLICLY RELEASABLE.
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